

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GP/3726

In Re Application of: Austin  
 Application No. 09/966,686  
 Filed: October 1, 2001  
 For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTRACTING, LOADING OR  
 CRIMPING SELF-EXPANDING AND BALLOON EXPANDABLE STENT  
 DEVICES  
 Examiner: Marc Quemuel Jimenez  
 Group Art Unit: 3726

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

COPY OF PAPER  
ORIGINALLY FILED

Docket No. S63.2-10142

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1. In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached:  
**4 page Amendment; 1 page Marked-up Claims; 14 page copy of Information Disclosure Statement filed January 9, 2002; 1 page formal drawing of Figure 1; VAS Transmittal Letter; and Postcard.**
2. With respect to fees:
  - No additional fee is required.
  - Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$
  - Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.
3. **CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**  
 This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

VIDAS, ARRETT &amp; STEINKRAUS

Date: May 13, 2002

By:

  
 Jonathan Grad  
 Registration No. 41,795

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Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as FIRST CLASS MAIL, addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on May 13, 2002.

Rebecca M. Painschab  
 Rebecca M. Painschab